

RECYCLING NEWS



Bureau of Waste Management

* Fall 2001 *

State Budget Makes Changes to the Recycling Program



The 2001-03 state budget includes significant changes to the state recycling program. Highlights of the directives approved in the budget bill are:

- * The municipal and county recycling grant program will continue to be funded through a combination of a business surcharge and a tipping fee. The tipping fee will increase from \$.30/ton to \$3.00/ton beginning January 1, 2002. There is no change in the business surcharge.
- * Promulgate rules to create a program for Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grants to Responsible Units (RU's). The Governor approved a grant package of \$1.9
- million, with funds to be distributed in FY03. The Governor has directed the department to solicit input from the public, responsible units, businesses and other interested groups on development of this program.
- * Promulgate rules to create a Pilot Program for Alternate Method of Compliance. The pilot project will allow RU's to experiment with alternatives to current program requirements, specifically as it relates to materials to
- be separated for recycling. The pilot project will involve nine communities. The pilot program ends on 12/31/05.
- * The current financial auditing requirement was replaced by a requirement for DNR to conduct effective program reviews of at least five percent of the grant recipients in the previous year. The Governor vetoed UW-Extension participation in the program review process.

Items Vetoed from the Conference Bill

- **★** A per capita grant formula;
- * An incentive/disincentive program that would have increased the per capita payment to RU's that consolidated and lowered the per capita payment to RU's that didn't consolidate;
- * Increased enforcement for recycling at landfills, including penalties for non-compliance;
- * Funding for UW Extension recycling education (4.0 full time equivalents (FTE) and total

- funding of \$336,900) and UW System solid waste research (0.5 FTE and research grant funds for total funding of \$154,900);
- ★ Upgrading a project position in the DNR to a permanent position; and
- * Direction to the Recycling Market development Board to focus on those materials that have the largest quantities being landfilled and the most significant human health and environmental effects.

In This Issue

- ★Message from Cynthia Moore DNR Recycling Team Leader p.3
- ₩WI Newspaper Recycled Content Requirements Update............p.4
- *Recycling Markets Directory
 Website Updatedp.4



Budget Allocations



Grants

Municipal and County Recycling Grant Program

Continues funding at the current level of \$24.5 million through FY03. The current method of distribution remains in effect. Generally, a RU can expect to receive approximately the same grant amount for 2002 as they received in 2001. However, the grant for 2002 will be distributed in two payments: a total of \$19.5 million is to be disbursed no later than June 1, 2002 and a total of \$5.0 million after June 30, 2002 but no later than December 1, 2002. Grant payments for FY03 will be distributed in one single payment as is currently done.

Waste Reduction and Recycling Demonstration Grant Program

Reduces funding from the current \$500,000 by \$200,000 for FY02. The grant amount reverts to \$500,000 in FY03. \$200,000 is to be made available to DNR in FY02 for use in development and administration of the efficiency incentive grant program and the alternative compliance pilot project.

Staffing

DNR

Provides for funding for DNR recycling staff at 17.5 FTE through FY03. The bill eliminates 0.5 FTE in the DNR Bureau of Finance that had been dedicated to performing financial audits of grant recipients. Vetoes conversion of a project position to 1.0 FTE SEG position. This position had staffed the

Council on Recycling and served as co-chair of the Electronics Task Force, as well as supporting numerous outreach activities.

Department of Commerce

Eliminates a vacant FTE position.

Department of Corrections

Computer Recycling Program: Four project positions were converted to permanent positions; three funded with DNR SEG funds and one funded by DOC Computer Recycling Project revenues.

UW System and the UW-Extension

Eliminates all funding for 4.5 FTE dedicated to recycling research and education, and requests the Department of Administration secretary not to allot these funds.

Programmatic Changes

Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grants

The directives include promulgation of rules for the incentive grant program and disbursement of \$1.9 million in grant funds in FY03 by June 30, 2003. The governor vetoed all language on program requirements and restrictions. Instead, the department is directed to solicit input from the public, responsible units, businesses and other interested groups on development of this program.

Pilot Program for Alternate Method of Compliance

This program will offer RUs an alternative method of complying with the requirements for an effective recycling program, by selecting to collect and recycle materials which are currently not included in the 1995 landfill ban. The program is designed to allow for flexibility in materials recycled in response to local conditions, needs and markets. RU's participating in this program will be considered to comply with the requirements for an effective recycling program.

The department, with input from the public, will develop a list of acceptable alternative materials and specify procedures by which RUs can identify and select alternative materials and track performance. The department is directed to promulgate rules to incorporate or achieve the following elements.

- * Select nine RU's to participate in the pilot program, according to the schedule below:
 - * three RUs with a population of less than 5,000
 - * three RUs with a population of at least 5,000 but less than 25.000
 - * three RUs with a population of at least 25,000.
- * Set goals for amounts of materials to be recycled as a percentage of solid waste generated in the geographic area served by the RU.
- * Include a list of materials that can be recycled in addition to those already required to be recycled.
- * Specify procedures for RU's to identify which materials they will recycle and to determine whether the alternative goals have been met.

The pilot program ends on 12/31/05.

Audit Requirement

The current financial auditing requirement was replaced with a requirement to review the effective recycling programs for at least five percent of the grant recipients in the previous year. DNR currently has an internal performance measure of reviewing twenty percent of all RUs.

Increased Enforcement for Recycling at Landfills

The proposed provisions for increased enforcement for recycling at landfills, including penalties for non-compliance, were eliminated.



Recycling News

Message from Cynthia Moore, DNR Recycling Team Leader

This has been an exciting time to come on board as team leader for the statewide recycling team. I joined DNR in mid-June 2001, and have been working closely with DNR staff, associated team members and stakeholders to come up to speed on the current program and to explore how best to implement the directives given to us in the 2001-03 state budget bill. I recognize that the new budget provides us with many challenges, but I am encouraged by the commitment the governor has shown to the recycling program and by the enthusiasm and dedication of all I have worked with in the past few months. I see a strong grassroots commitment to recycling throughout the state, which will assure us the foundation upon which to build the new programs.

I, and the Recycling Team, will miss the support and innovative recycling education and research activities performed for many years by the UW-System and Extension Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center, and the services provided by the DNR recycling project position. Staff involved with these positions all contributed to the success of recycling in Wisconsin.

In addition to my responsibilities as Recycling team leader, I also serve as business sector specialist for electronics recycling and reuse and for alternative approaches to environmental protection. My focus in this area will be on the promotion and development of local and statewide initiatives for cathode ray tubes and televison recycling and for end-product responsibility initiatives for electronics as well as for other materials. Numerous local, state and national initiatives are underway in these areas, and I have been making

contacts to determine how best to direct my efforts.

Prior to my employment as Recycling Team leader with DNR. I worked in north central Florida for local and state governments in natural resource planning and management. I moved to Wisconsin from Florida in late 2000 and have been delighted with the success of my decision to relocate here. Prior to my work in Florida, I worked for many years in West Africa, as a Peace Corps volunteer and later as a private consultant in a variety of rural development projects. I hold a masters degree from Cornell University in Continuing and Extension Education, and completed partial work towards a masters in Resource Economics at the University of Florida. 🐔

Public Input Requested

The department is soliciting input from the public on the Recycling Efficiency Grant Program and the Pilot Program for Alternate Method of Compliance. If you have comments on either or both of these program please contact your regional DNR recycling staff. If you would like to be put on a special e-mail list to keep abreast of these two new programs please send an e-mail to: <moorec@dnr.state.wi.us>



Waste Characterization and Management Study to be Updated

The Wisconsin Waste Characterization and Management study, originally done in 1992 with updates in 1995 and 1998, will be updated again by Franklin and Associates (FAL) by October of this year. FAL will provide an estimate of the amounts, composition, and disposition of solid waste generated and disposed in Wisconsin in 2000. The latest update, using the most recent data available, is intended to identify trends for Wisconsin waste generation, composition and disposition. FAL will also do projections of the amounts, composition and disposition of solid waste for 2005 and 2010. Copies of the report should be available by the end of December. 🐴



Personnel Changes in the DNR

The Recycling Program Welcomes

Cynthia Moore - Recycling Team Leader, 608/267-7550

Cynde English - South Central Region, 608-275-3240

The Recycling Program Sends Its' Best Wishes

Jane Washburn - Long-time member of the Recycling Team has accepted a position as office Manager-Bureau of Waste Management.

March 2000 3



Wisconsin's Newspaper Recycled Content Requirements: 2000 Update

The state Legislature enacted the newspaper recycled content law in 1990 as part of the state's efforts to build and sustain demand for recyclable materials. Wisconsin law requires newspaper and shoppers guide publishers and printers to use newsprint such that the average post-consumer recycled content of all newsprint used for the year meets or exceeds a minimum standard. This demand by publishers supports the paper mills demand for the old newspapers and magazines collected from Wisconsin's municipal recycling programs.

The minimum standard for recycled fiber in 2000 was 33 percent. 64 Wisconsin central printers and individual publishers reported using 186,698 tons of newsprint in 2000. Of that total. 78,313 tons were post-consumer recycled fiber. This represents a 5 percent decrease (-3,797 tons) in recycled fiber conpared to 1999. On average, newsprint used in Wisconsin contained 45.48 percent postconsumer fiber, exceeding state standards by over twelve percentage points. Only five publishers did not meet the minimum standards; four of these paid fees and one was granted a waiver. For 2001 and 2002 the minimum standard will be 37 percent. The minimum standard will be raised to 40 percent in the year 2003 and thereafter. 🕰

Recycling Markets Directory Website Updated

ment of Natural Resources has recently updated the Wisconsin Recycling Markets Directory website. The updated website provides detailed information on markets for fifteen types of recyclable materials like batteries, plastics, paper, industrial materials and reusable materials and over 115 categories of those fifteen principal materials. Nearly 300 companies are represented in the updated directory.

Users can search for a specific material or category of material by city, zip code, or all results. Results can then be displayed by either organization name or by city. Users can also store information on a shopping cart page for later use. Because information is stored in a database, updates will now be more frequent and new information can

be quickly incorporated on the site. The Directory will no longer be available in printed format.

The new Wisconsin Recycling Markets Directory also has updated information on environmental regulations as they apply to recycling and reuse, and updated material overviews.

The Markets Directory Site Can be Found at:

http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/ aw/wm/Markets/category.html or go to the DNR website at http://www.dnr.state.wi.us, click on

- Environmental Protection
- Waste
- Recycling
- Markets Directory.

For More Information Contact:

Jane Washburn – (608) 267-3132 or the website administrator at wrmd@dnr.state.wi.us

2001

Mark Your Calendar

October 1, 2001

Applications for recycling grants to Responsible Units must be postmarked by this date to receive the full grant amount. Applications received after this date but before October 30 are eligible for reduced funding

October 9, 2001

WasteCap Talk and Tour: Alliant Energy- Madison

November 13, 2001

Council on Recycling meeting- Madison

January 16-18

WCSWMA- Green Bay

March 4-6

AROW- Wisconsin Dells

Recycling News is a publication of the DNR's Bureau of Waste Management, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921. It is published three times a year.

Managing Editor: Jane Washburn, (608)267-3132. Articles can be submitted to her attention at the above address. Articles may be reprinted. No permission is necessary. Subscriptions are free. To subscribe, write to the above address.

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Recycling News

Publications - Fall 2001

The DNR provides free publications covering a variety of waste reduction and recycling topics. If you would like copies of any of the publications summarized in this Recycling News, please provide the information requested below and mail the folded form to DNR Recycling Publications – WA/3. (Address on Reverse.)

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March 2000 5

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